

Brooke Van Baush - #5

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Urbanized

Word Count: 409

1. The documentary Urbanized, directed by Gary Hustwit, was released in 2001.
2. The biggest argument of Urbanized is that currently, the process of urbanization is unsustainable in standard of living as well as energy consumption. The process of urbanization needs to be designed just like every other part of a city.
3. This argument is made through showing different examples of cities and how they have adapted the city positively such as clips of those shown in the UK. They have emphasized the use of bikes by providing their own networks and roads as a way to encourage this form of transportation. 37% of the people bike to work now.
4. The main problem is behavioral. People are so accustomed to driving that they believe parking is a right. In Chile, they have started to take away parking structures as a way of eliminating the traffic into the city.
5. The most persuasive part in Urbanized is the argument of whether a settlement is sanitary enough to live in. The government in India believes that 1 toilet for every 50 people is sufficient where in actuality 300 people share that toilet.
6. The film speaks to me greatly because as an architect major, I know my field has such a huge impact, yet the amount of measure that are not being taken are devastatingly high.
7. There is a strong reliance on emotion in the film as it is stated that projects are much more productive when the community is engaged as a whole. The positive examples showing how a city can be organized help the community to become optimistic for change and become an integral part in their community.
8. The film wants designers to be aware of the power they have over urbanization in addition to the community being aware of the amount of influence they have as well. This would be helpful as long as all parties stay committed.
9. Actions not suggested were those that could start at the higher levels such as measure which could be taken by the government and higher ups.
10. The target audience is to the community as a whole. Cities are supposed to be built for us and so if people want to drive they will only build more roads and parking structures making everything more congested. If there is an interest in more sustainable modes of transportation then the city can be re-organized to accommodate the mass.